

continued assistance until this economy can provide them with jobs they desperately want again.

Mr. Speaker, the Congress must make the plight of middle class America its number one concern. Without the temporary extension of unemployment benefits under TEUC, Americans will continue to struggle to pay the bills in this still-weak job market. By extending the unemployment benefits for an additional six months, it will grant more time for unemployed Americans to find new jobs. While experts could explain various aspects about the business and economic cycles and how companies will begin hiring again in the future, this does not solve the present problem of how bread winners are going to pay bills and how food is going to get into the stomachs of children so that when they go to school, their day is spent learning and not focusing on the pain in their gut.

Mr. Speaker, to this end I submit that we not hesitate in renewing unemployment benefits and spend the taxpayers dollars on the soundest investment of all, the American worker. Its long past time that these unemployed workers get the benefits they deserve and time for us as a Congress to vote to restore the Temporary Extended Unemployment Compensation program.

TRIBUTE TO KATHY CLONINGER

HON. ELLEN O. TAUSCHER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 28, 2004

Mrs. TAUSCHER. Mr. Speaker, as co-leader of the Honorary Congressional Girl Scout Troop, I am pleased to congratulate Kathy Cloninger, who has recently been named as Chief Executive Officer of Girl Scouts of the USA. Under Kathy's leadership, Girl Scouts of the USA will truly become the preeminent organization advocating for America's girls.

As a former Girl Scout I know first hand the difference that scouting can make in a girl's life. More than 3 million girls look to Girl Scouts of the USA to help them grow into talented, successful young women.

As a former businesswoman, I also know first hand the difference that the leader of an organization can make. As co-leader of Troop Capitol Hill, I look forward to working closely with Kathy Cloninger. Her vision for Girl Scouting is inspiring.

Under Kathy's leadership, Girl Scouts of the USA will complete their transition from the Girl Scouts that I knew, to the Girl Scouts that is now rising to the challenge of addressing the needs of contemporary girls with contemporary issues. From Girl Scouts Beyond Bars to troops in public housing communities, as I tell my daughter, this is not your mother's Girl Scouts.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you to join me in congratulating Kathy Cloninger in her new position and wish her the best of luck.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 28, 2004

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 6 and 7 on Tuesday, January 27, 2004, I was unable to cast my vote due to inclement weather, being detained Charleston International Airport with multiple day-long delays and cancellations.

Had I been present, I would have voted the following:

Rollcall 6, to extend the provision of title 39, United States Code, under which the United States Postal Service is authorized to issue a special postage stamp to benefit breast cancer research, I would have voted "yea".

Rollcall 7, Medical Devices Technical Corrections Act, I would have voted "yea".

THE EUROPEAN POPULATION FORUM 2004

HON. JAMES C. GREENWOOD

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 28, 2004

Mr. GREENWOOD. Mr. Speaker, the global community, particularly the poorest countries of the world, face significant problems in the area of reproductive health and family planning. A critical shortage of international funding for family planning exacerbates severe threats to maternal and child health. To examine current population developments, the European Population Forum 2004 was held January 12-14, under the auspices of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe and the United Nations Population Fund. I encourage members of this body to take note of the following statement written by Werner Fornos, president of the Population Institute and recipient of the 2003 United Nations Population Award. The following article, which appeared in the International Herald Tribune on January 14, 2004, sheds light on the dangerous and false belief that population growth is no longer the global concern it was a decade ago.

[From the International Herald Tribune, Jan. 14, 2004]

A GLOBAL CONCERN

A POPULATION CRISIS STILL LOOMS

(By Werner Fornos)

As the European Population Forum in Geneva draws to a close, coming to grips with high fertility rates remains a daunting international challenge, particularly in the poorest countries of the world where population growth continues to outstrip resources, place pressure on the environment, and exacerbate social disintegration. Despite encouraging recent reports from the United Nations, human growth remains an issue that requires priority attention around the globe if there is to be realistic hope for achieving sustainable development.

Only 3 years ago, the United Nations estimated that by mid-century the planet's human population would have risen from about 6.2 billion to 9.3 billion. More recent figures project the 2050 population to be 400 million less than the previous estimate. When the numbers are examined more closely, however, we find that the population of the industrialized countries is estimated to

remain constant through 2050 at about 1.2 billion. Virtually all human growth will occur in the developing world, where the population is expected to increase from the current 5.1 billion people to 7.7 billion.

Considering that developing countries bear the brunt of the earth's grinding poverty, desperate hunger, disease, illiteracy and unemployment, the recent downward revision of demographic figures does not warrant celebration. In fact, some developing countries, including Burkina Faso, Mali, Niger, Somalia, and Yemen, are likely to quadruple their population by mid-century.

Over the past 40 to 45 years, the world's population has doubled. But annual population growth has been decreasing since the 1990's, from a high approaching 90 million to less than 80 million. These declines have spawned a pervasive myth that population growth is no longer a matter of global magnitude—a myth that is spread, unsurprisingly, by the same crowd that 10, 15, and 20 years earlier insisted that population growth was never a problem in the first place: religious extremists and reactionary political ideologues.

The irony of the myth is that this year marks the 10th anniversary of the International Conference on Population and Development. That meeting, in Cairo, established important quantitative goals for the next 20 years, including efforts to ensure that every pregnancy is intended; to protect women from unsafe abortion; to promote education for all and to close the gender gap in education; to combat AIDS; and to bring women into the mainstream of development.

A key concern, however, is that expenditures for implementing family planning and reproductive health programs have fallen well short of the \$17 billion that the Cairo meeting estimated would be required by 2000.

Industrialized countries were expected to come up with one-third of that total, or \$5.7 billion, but by 2001 had contributed only \$2.5 billion. Developing countries and private sources, expected to spend \$11.3 billion on population activities by 2000 had contributed only \$7 billion by 2001.

Global goals for drastically reducing poverty, maternal and child mortality, illiteracy and hunger will be mere wishful thinking unless and until population growth is substantially lowered. For this to happen, the international community must clearly understand that to achieve an improved quality of life for all, now is the time to accelerate population stabilization efforts, rather than retreat from them.

IN RECOGNITION OF DONALD A. DUFF

HON. JIM MATHESON

OF UTAH

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 28, 2004

Mr. MATHESON. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Mr. Donald A. Duff, of Salt Lake City, who is retired after forty-three years of Federal service on January 2, 2004. His abiding love of this country began at the age of seventeen during his service as a seasonal postal carrier in northwest Washington, DC.

In 1959, Mr. Duff enlisted in the United States Air Force, following in the footsteps of relatives who have served this nation in every conflict since the Revolutionary War. He also comes from a long line of relatives with close ties to our capital city including a great-great-grandfather who assisted Pierre L'Enfant in laying out the streets of Georgetown and a